

**Social Justice - a Global Perspective:
Divided Cities and Shared Spaces**

Dr. Roni Strier
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Course Number:

Class Location: To be confirmed

Class Time: To be confirmed

Office Hours: By appointment

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Course Description:

Widely used in a variety of academic, political, legal and social discourse, 'Social Justice' is an exciting concept, although a much contested one. The course will address theoretical and practical implications of "Social Justice" from a global and interdisciplinary perspective. Specifically, the course will focus on the subject of mixed cities. A mixed city is defined as a city with a population composed of different ethnic, national and/or religious groups living within a context of intergroup tension or conflict (Rekness, 2007). The development of ethnically mixed cities raises questions related to municipal management, majority-minority relations, multiculturalism, cultural competence, urban justice, distribution of resources, and institutional representation (Smyth, 2009).

The course will engage students in theoretical discussions and expose them to social justice-based research methodologies, while exploring the social, legal, and political dimensions at the local and global levels. In addition, students will take part in experiential methodological workshops and participate in study tours in different mixed cities in Israel in which they will meet advocacy organization leaders and community project directors.

* *This course is based on the 'Social Justice Seminar', an Inter-professional Global Student Course developed in a partnership between Haifa University and The University of Maryland Schools of Social Work, Law, Nursing, and Pharmacy and the UMB Global Health Interprofessional Council by: Dr. Roni Strier from University of Haifa (School of Social Work), and Professors Corey Shdaimah, Jody Olsen (School of Social Work), Susan Leviton (School of Law), and Jane Lipscomb (School of Nursing) from The University of Maryland, Baltimore.*

Course Requirements:

The course is composed of frontal lectures, guest lectures, and classroom discussions based on reading assignments. Study tours are also an important part of the course program, allowing students to experience firsthand the different aspects of theoretical knowledge as expressed in the field, to familiarize them with social projects in Israel, social services and best practices.

Mandatory reading assignments are posted weekly on the University's eLearning Portal. Students are expected to participate in the ensuing class discussions. The course also includes a final written paper based on several essay questions.

Attendance requirement: at least 80% of classes

Final Grade:

Weekly reading assignments	20%
Final paper	80%

Course Outline and Reading List

The course contents are subdivided into three sections. Reading assignments are specific for each section and as preparation to study tours.

Section	Subject	Readings
1	Social Justice – Definitions, main theories, and key concepts	Item # 1,5, 9, 11
2	Mixed / Divided cities – a Global and Israeli perspective	Item # 2,10
3	Experiential methodological classes and workshops	Item # 3, 4,6,7,8
4	Study tours	

Bibliography

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Diversi, M., & Finley, S. (2010). Poverty pimps in the academy: A dialogue about subjectivity reflexivity and power in decolonizing production of knowledge. *Cultural Studies, Critical Methodologies*, 10, (1), 14-17. (3)

Goodhart, F.W., Hsu, J., Baek, J.H., Coleman, A.L., Maresca, F.M., & Miller, M.B. (2006). A View through a different lens: Photovoice as a tool for student advocacy. *Journal of American College Health*, 55, (1), 53-56. (4)

Hodge, D. (2010). Social justice as a unifying theme in social work education: Principles to realize the promise of a new pedagogical model. *Journal of Comparative Social Welfare*, 26, (2-3), 201-213. (5)

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- Lal, S., Jarus, T., & Suto, M.J. (2012). A scoping review of the photovoice method: Implications for occupational theory research. *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 79, (3), 181-190. (7)
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- Smyth, L. (2009). *Gender and public space in divided cities: Dynamics of everyday urban life*. Conflict in Cities. Working Papers Series. (10)
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